

# Eco-Community Dialogues Newsletter

Nancy Nelson, Editor

Vol. 7 No. 3

Friday, January 17, 2014

## The Conservation Pledge

*I pledge to protect and preserve the natural resources of the planet Earth, and promise to promote education so we may become caretakers of our air, water, land, forest, and wildlife.*

## Green Thumbs

Skin salves containing calendula and olive oils are known to be naturally nourishing for gardener's hands and it's always nice to have on hand a nail brush, manicure supplies, and gardener's soap.

Grandmothers and others may enjoy nurturing a potted herb or two indoors between now and Mother's Day when hope springs. Basil, lemon balm, lemongrass, and lemon thyme are natural insect repellent plants whose leaves can be steeped for tea. You can plant the herbs outdoors when spring comes.

If you buy assorted organic seeds now, then when the merry month of May comes, you will have an affordable way to grow food. If you get others to join you, together you may produce larger volumes of food cooperatively, and cut cost.

Some home gardeners support one another through potluck get-togethers such as [www.meetup.com/Southern-Oregon-Vegetarian-Vegan-Group](http://www.meetup.com/Southern-Oregon-Vegetarian-Vegan-Group), or [www.roguevalleyvegans.com](http://www.roguevalleyvegans.com). You may network and share with others on your website and/or Facebook via the gift of cyberspace.

It's entirely possible to let your friends know about the recent documentary, MORE THAN HONEY available from [www.morethanahoneyfilm.com](http://www.morethanahoneyfilm.com).

## Two-Decades of GMO Population Study

According to the *Institute for Responsible Technology* the *Genetically Modified Organisms* (GMO) seeds are laboratory engineered to be drenched in deadly doses of killer chemicals that researchers implicate as extremely toxic.

Toxins have been accumulating in the U.S. population for over 20-years, giving rise to inflammatory diseases such as Alzheimer's, autism, cancer, diabetes, heart disease, MS, Parkinson's, etc. According to new studies, the SICK AMERICA link is GLYPHOSATE, the active ingredient in *Roundup Ready*, which is sprayed directly on food crops at the end of the growing season to dry the plants before harvest.

The *Institute for Responsible Technology* urges buying *Certified Organic* grains, fruit, and vegetables as a safeguard to you and your family's health.

.....

The ShopNoGMO App is available at iPhone App Store. It helps when dining out or shopping. To learn more about the health risks of GMO's, you may get the App and tell your friends that some food producers who used to object to federal labeling of GMO ingredients have removed GMO's from their products because it's sick to have a SICK AMERICA. How sick of being sick are you and your family and friends. Maybe it's time to yell "Uncle" to Sam.

(Sources: Volume 19, EXTRAORDINARY HEALTH, "Battling the World of GMO's" by Jeffrey M. Smith, [www.gardenoflife.com](http://www.gardenoflife.com), [www.responsibletechnology.org](http://www.responsibletechnology.org); [twitter@JeffreyMSmith.com](https://twitter.com/JeffreyMSmith); and <https://www.facebook.com/responsibletechnology> )

#### DOW, DUPONT, and SYNGENTA Sue KAUAI County

HAWAII's new restrictions on *Genetically Modified Organism* (GMO) crops are food justice. Dispute of justice was filed in a U.S. District Court in Honolulu, HAWAII, by the three filthy rich corporate offenders, DOW CHEMICAL COMPANY, DUPONT COMPANY, and SYNGENTA AG. All together the GMO soil intruders lease 11,500 acres for GMO testing and research. But instead of strengthening the garden isle's community ties, these biochemical tech giants aggressively seek to ignore and undermine the ability of local peoples to shape their own local protections.

According to a council member who co-introduced Bill 2491, DOW, DUPONT, and SYNGENTA refused to be transparent and wouldn't tell the county jurisdiction what pesticides they are using, which denies the county any ability to evaluate impacts. Therefore the county council members passed Bill 2491 in November, 2013, and the new regulations will go into effect in August, 2014. The county put restrictions upon the invasive pesticide use near schools and nursing homes and requires disclosure because of how burdensome it is to the island for its local schoolchildren to be sickened.

DOW, DUPONT, and SYNGENTA selfishly want to recoup their legal fees from suing KAUAI county. Clearly, these chemical agribusinesses lack love of local people. The situation in KAUAI shines a light on what happens when a few multinational corporations gain an inordinate amount of power. Their corporate decisions hurt the environment. GMO biopesticide test plots and crops bring in big money, by distorting local human rights. The problem sources back to AMERICA's federal government designating corporations as "people". Corporate ruthlessness is *Spirit of Aloha*, NOT.

In December, 2013, the Big Island of HAWAII also banned new GMO crops to curb the invasive threat of GMO biopesticide crops there as well.

(Sources: December 9, 2013, THE WALLSTREET JOURNAL's Corporate Watch, "Monsanto Herbicide Sales Boost Profit, Seed Unit Declines", by Jacob Bunge and Tess Stynes; January 13, 2014, THE WALL STREET JOURNAL, "Ag Firms Sue to block Anti-GMO Law" by Jacob Bunge; January 14, 2014, THE WALL STREET JOURNAL, "Corrections and Amplifications, A New Law")

#### What About MONSANTO

MONSANTO COMPANY also has GMO operations in HAWAII, but has stayed out of the lawsuit against KAUAI county. MONSANTO CO. is based in ST. Louis, MOUSOURI. Their fiscal quarterly profit was \$368 million because the corporation sold 1.7 billion worth of seeds and related agricultural products. Their herbicide sales offset a slight decline in their core agribusiness sales of corn and soybean GMO seeds.

(Sources: December 9, 2013, THE WALLSTREET JOURNAL's Corporate Watch, "Monsanto Herbicide Sales Boost Profit, Seed Unit Declines", by Jacob Bunge and Tess Stynes; January 13, 2014, THE WALL STREET JOURNAL, "Ag Firms Sue to block Anti-GMO Law" by Jacob Bunge)

### Research Uncovers Fraudulent GMO Claims

If organic consumers and farmers could find seats at the corporate and governmental decision making tables, possibilities of constructive changes would be much higher. Change would occur through educating decision makers to better understand actual data information rather than marketing distortions. At the community level what's needed is a new set of values based on caring about impacts to global and local environmental and human health. Prevalence of an ignorant *La La Land* mentality is rampant among the wealthy and the downtrodden. The difference is that the rich can afford higher prices while suffering the poor to perish.

On June 2012, at a GMO crop cultivation conference in Bremen, GERMANY, report entitled, "*Seed options narrow when a handful of companies dominate the marketplace*" was presented by Angelika Hilbeck, Senior Scientist at the Institute of Integrative Biology at ETH Zurich's SWISS FEDERAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY. Her research findings concluded that GMO proponents are incorrect in claiming GMO technology increases farmers' seed choices. The case is exactly the opposite. Farmers' seed options are declining in countries where there are no GMO crop bans.

For example, in SPAIN where GMO corn isn't banned, GMO cultivars have replaced non-GMO cultivars in seed catalogues in SPAIN, limiting freedom of choice for Spanish farmers.

But GMO cultivars are banned AUSTRIA, GERMANY, and SWITZERLAND, so non-GMO cultivar varieties have stayed the same or increased in seed catalogues from those three countries.

The research concluded that GMO proponents incorrectly claim a strong demand for GMO seeds is why U.S. farmers have high adoption rates of GMO corn. The GMO claims are fraudulent.

Take AMERICA, for example. U.S. farmers have no choice, but to buy GMO seeds since the large seed companies are phasing out non-GMO varieties. Non-GMO cultivar choice in AMERICA decreased 67 percent between 2005 and 2010.

The actual problem U.S. farmers face is GMO seed monopoly. Senior Scientist Hilbeck's research is conclusive that GMO engineering has reduced or eliminated seed choices. Limiting U.S. farmer choices to a few patented GMO cultivars, is causative of significantly higher prices.

Since the GMO proponents make incorrect, fraudulent GMO claims, victims of fraudulent claims can report fraud by calling the OREGON DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE at 1.877.877.9392, or visit [www.oregonconsumer.gov](http://www.oregonconsumer.gov).

(Source: Fall 2013, IN GOOD TILTH, VOLUME 24, Number 3, "*Farmers in the United States, Europe, Brazil, India and South Africa find fewer non-GMO options*" by Ken Roseboro; [www.nongmoproject.org](http://www.nongmoproject.org) )

### GMO Control of AMERICA and CANADA

Firstly, Jere Gettle, founder of BAKER CREEK HEIRLOOM SEED, cites over 50 percent of historic corn varieties are now contaminated with MONSANTO's GMO corn. Rare heirloom seed varieties are lost and gone forever as extinct. In America, *Spectrum Premium Genetics* is breeding some non-GMO corn seed varieties and *eMerge Genetics* is breeding some non-GMO soybeans for farmers who want to opt out of the GMO take over.

Secondly, GMO canola contaminates organic farms and GMO canola's pollen drift is so prolific in CANADA, that the entire market for organic canola is cited as lost. Arnold Taylor, President of the SASKATCHEWAN ORGANIC DIRECTORATE, filed lawsuit against biotechnology companies for the loss of the Canadian organic canola market.

Thirdly, Entomologist Michael Gray with the UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS surveyed ILLINOIS farmers and found they have no access to seed other than GMO corn and the situation with sugar is as bad as it gets.

January 24, 2014

Page 4

There is no farmer choice because processors decided to convert the entire U.S. sugar production to Round Up Ready GMO beets. A lawsuit has been filed.

The Plaintiff is *Frank Morton*, owner of WILD GARDEN SEEDS. He has lawsuit to stop production of GMO sugar beets in *Willamette Valley*, OREGON. *Morton* is suing the coordinated effort to simultaneously turn an entire sector of the processed food industry into GMO. No holdouts were kept to provide a source of conventional beet sugar to fulfill non-GMO consumer demand. The U.S.D.A. Certified Organic farmers have had to stop growing because GMO sugar beets threaten cross-pollination of organic.

(Source: Fall 2013, IN GOOD TILTH, VOLUME 24, Number 3, "*Farmers in the United States, Europe, Brazil, India and South Africa find fewer non-GMO options*" by Ken Roseboro; [www.nongmoproject.org](http://www.nongmoproject.org) )

#### GMO Control of Brazil

*Ricardo Tatesuzi de Sousa*, Executive Director of the BRAZILIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE PRODUCERS OF NON-GM GRAINS (ABRANGE) implicates BASF SE, MONSANTO, PIONEER HI-BRED, and other large GMO corporations for keeping non-GMO seed unavailable to farmers in BRAZIL. Withholding seed forces farmers to submit to the seed monopoly of the corporate will. It is market slavery. That's why *Embrapa*, the leading agricultural research organization in BRAZIL, launched a program to breed *Soja Livre* non-GMO soybean varieties. Instead of just one company selling non-GMO seed in BRAZIL, now there are 13-companies.

(Source: Fall 2013, IN GOOD TILTH, VOLUME 24, Number 3, "*Farmers in the United States, Europe, Brazil, India and South Africa find fewer non-GMO options*" by Ken Roseboro; [www.nongmoproject.org](http://www.nongmoproject.org) )

#### GMO Control of South Africa

*Willem Visser*, Marketing Manager for DELTA SEED, an independent seed company in SOUTH AFRICA cites that it is nearly impossible to obtain non-GMO soy seed because of PIONEER HI-BRED and its subsidiary PANNAR AND LINK monopolize with *Roundup Ready* GMO's. But SOUTH AFRICA farmers are showing interest in returning to non-GMO corn and soybean seeds because of GMO insect-resistance problems.

(Source: Fall 2013, IN GOOD TILTH, VOLUME 24, Number 3, "*Farmers in the United States, Europe, Brazil, India and South Africa find fewer non-GMO options*" by Ken Roseboro; [www.nongmoproject.org](http://www.nongmoproject.org) )

#### GMO Control of Cotton in India

*Glenn Davis Stone*, Professor of Anthropology and Environmental Studies at WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY in St. Louis, MOUSOURI, focuses his research on cotton production in INDIA. He cites GMO cotton seed as monopolizing Indian farmers. Because farmers have little choice, it's too hard to find non-GMO seeds. that's why the SWISS RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF ORGANIC AGRICULTURE and the UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTUREAL SCIENCES DHARWAD, BIORE INDIA are joint venturing to re-establish non-GMO cotton seed for INDIA.

(Source: Fall 2013, IN GOOD TILTH, VOLUME 24, Number 3, "*Farmers in the United States, Europe, Brazil, India and South Africa find fewer non-GMO options*" by Ken Roseboro; [www.nongmoproject.org](http://www.nongmoproject.org) )

#### Cafeteria Man Documentary

If curing up with a thought-provoking film appeals to you, CAFETERIA MAN released last year and the documentary has been generating a lot of buzz about the dysfunctional school lunch nutritional program that needs to be overhauled. See [www.cafeteriaman.com](http://www.cafeteriaman.com)

(Source: January 2014 TASTE FOR LIFE, Cutting Edge Concern, "*Documented Food and environment Issues on Screen*" by Karen Lovett)

### Fracking Ruins Beer

A million natural gas wells are scheduled to be drilled this decade, and already 15.3 million U.S. citizens suffer a natural gas well drilled within a mile of their home, and one of the biggest outcries is coming from the beer industry.

The recent fracking boom threatens freshwater supplies with an enormous amount of cancerous chemicals being pumped into the ground to free deposits of natural gas and shale oil. The fracking industry claims to use 80,000 to 100,000 gallons of water per gas well, even in drought-prone states. That's a lot of water to pollute and a lot of brewery outrage since the fracking process pollutes water used in the beer brewing process.

Brewers are calling for international limits on air, water, and oil pollution from the cargo ships, and fracking moratoriums. The beer industry needs water supplies protected from BENZENE, METHANE, and other chemicals used in the fracking process. Breweries are calling for Fracking moratoriums.

(Source: Fall 2013, FRIENDS OF THE EARTH, "What's on Your Holiday Table? [www.foe.org](http://www.foe.org))

### GASLAND, Part II

You might want to watch the thought-provoking 2013 movie, GASLAND PART II, the documentary sequel to the 2010 GASLAND movie. The natural gas industry portrayal that the fracking practice is clean and safe is betrayal of the damaging environmental effects. To learn more about the environmental issues of fracking, go to [www.gaslandthemovie.com](http://www.gaslandthemovie.com).

### Israel, Jordan, and the Palestinian Authority

*"And one day when all the children sing, 'LET THERE BE PEACE', then one day all the war-minds will give a war and no one will show up."*

--Willie Whitefeather

ISRAEL, JORDAN, and the PALESTINIAN AUTHORITY agreed together on an infrastructure project to address water scarcity. All three parties jointly made a request of the WORLD BANK and donor nations, especially FRANCE, for help with a \$12 billion project. The project came together as a collaborative regional infrastructure development deal fostering cooperation and goodwill.

The "Red Sea- Dead Sea Project" binds ISRAEL, JORDAN, and the PALESTINIAN AUTHORITY together, meaning the three parties agreed, and are now speaking directly and peacefully with one another, and water scarcity has been removed as a point of tension in ISRAELI negotiations with PALISTINIANS.

In fact The JORDAN's *Port of Aquaba*, on the RED SEA will have a desalination plant completed in 2017 to flush water into the water-stressed region. JORDAN will provide half of the *Aquaba* desalination plant's output for ISRAEL's *Neger Desert* and keep the other half for SOUTHERN JORDAN. Can you imagine *Aquaba's* long-term green hydroelectric power in JORDAN's south, with the PALESTINIAN AUTHORITY as a partner with ISRAEL. *Prayers for peace are answered quietly without fanfare.*

In return ISRAEL will take MEDITERRANEAN DESALINATION WATER into the *Hebron*, WEST BANK area, and provide *Amman*, JORDAN, with water from the SEA OF GALILLIE.

A 125-mile pipeline will be completed in 2017 to transfer desalination plant brine to the DEAD SEA, which is shared by all three parties to the deal. This will stabilize the DEAD SEA's borders, because JORDAN's cooperation with ISRAEL benefits the PALISTINIAN AUTHORITY with improved living conditions, in a way that *Hamas* can't. It will take about 20-years to complete the entire project and is in the best interest of all three beneficiaries.

January 24, 2014

Page 6

(Source: January 7, 2014, WALL STREET JOURNAL, "A Middle East Accord—No Diplomats Needed" by Seth Siegel)

#### WATERMARK

The documentary film, WATERMARK, came out in 2013. This movie explores EARTH's changing water resources. To see the movie, contact [www.edwardburtynsky.com](http://www.edwardburtynsky.com).

#### Portable Solar Generators

You might want to have a SUNNR renewable energy generator system as the solution for your off-the-grid, supplemental, backup electricity needs. For more information, visit [www.SUNNR.com](http://www.SUNNR.COM), or contact [MENews@SUNNR.COM](mailto:MENews@SUNNR.COM). You may also contact them today by calling 540.271.3403.

The sun's biophoton energy shines upon all the creatures of the EARTH, and does not favor even one blade of grass for another. Sunshine is the fountain of light that warms our days and lights our path. As each morning comes Man could embrace solar energy.

#### Conscious Consumers

Education is the key to shopping smarter. The American people are becoming educated about protecting themselves as consumers. To learn more about consumer protection, visit [www.oregonconsumer.gov](http://www.oregonconsumer.gov). While you're at it, you can practice conservation by opting out of unsolicited mail offers. First, call 1.888.567.8688. Next, for a \$1 fee you can register online at [www.dmachoice.org](http://www.dmachoice.org). Then, register online at [www.optoutprescreen.com](http://www.optoutprescreen.com).

#### Pop Quiz

What happens to your waste water?

---

**Fair Use Notice:** The *Eco-Community Dialogues* newsletters are intended for educational and informational purposes only. Just in case there's any copywriter material, the use of which material may not have always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner, it is believed that the intention of these newsletters constitutes a "Fair Use" of any copyrighted material as provided for in section 107 of the US Copyright Law. In Accordance with Title 17 U.S.C. Section 107, the *Eco-Community Dialogues* newsletters are distributed without profit to those who have an interest in using the included information for research and educational purposes. If you wish to use copyrighted material in any of the *Eco Community Dialogues* newsletters for purposes of your own that go beyond "Fair Use", you must obtain permission from the copyright owner. The information in the *Eco-Community Dialogues* newsletters does not constitute legal or technical advice.

Nancy Nelson makes every effort to ensure the accuracy of all the information (Content) contained in the *Eco-Community Newsletters*. However, she makes no representations or warranties whatsoever as to the accuracy, completeness, or suitability for any purpose of the Content. Any opinions and views expressed in these newsletters are the opinions and views of the authors, and should be independently verified with primary sources of information. Nancy Nelson shall not be liable for any losses, actions, claims, proceedings, demands, costs, expenses, damages and other liabilities whatsoever or howsoever caused arising directly or indirectly in connection with, in relation to, or arising out of the use of the Content. Any substantial or systematic reproduction, redistribution, selling, loan, licensing, sub-licensing, systematic supply, or distribution in any form to anyone is expressly forbidden. Access and use of these newsletters may be used only for research, teaching, and private study purposes.

---